

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061  
Rockville MD 20852

5589 '99 APR 13 AIO:14

Docket No. 98N-1038

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing to support permanent mandatory labeling of irradiated foods with a disclosure statement and the radura symbol. **THIS IS AN ISSUE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE, AND I AM HORRIFIED THAT THERE COULD POSSIBLY BE ANY QUESTION OVER THIS ISSUE.** As bad as things have gotten, the government still exists to represent the citizenry, and I'm sure nearly everyone would agree that the FDA must not cave in to the demands of the rapacious agri-food-industry titans.

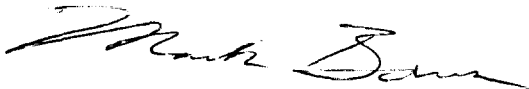
I believe labeling of irradiated foods is essential to protecting my right to make an informed choice about the food I buy. I object to any proposal to reduce the size of the disclosure statement and radura or move the labeling to a less conspicuous part of the food packaging or produce displays. I also believe that labeling should be required for foods containing irradiated ingredients, as well as foods in their whole form.

Also, changing the terminology of labeling to "cold pasteurization" or other names to replace "treated by irradiation" or "treated with radiation" would be misleading to consumers who have become familiar with irradiation labeling in place since 1986. "Cold pasteurization" goes beyond mere euphemism, well into the lexicon of Orwellian deception.

Including an expiration date for labeling irradiated foods would essentially eliminate my right to choose the types of products I purchase. Again, I support prominent and permanent labeling of all irradiated foods.

Again, I believe this is an issue where the FDA should "do the right thing" for the health and well-being of the people, not merely for the fiscal interests of the megacorporations that have become so invidiously dominant in the structure of our society.

Sincerely,



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